

not exactly referable to *L. l. gambeli*, but appears to be nearer that than either of the other U. S. forms."

On Santa Cruz Island, May 6 to 11, 1897, Mr. R. H. Beck collected nine adult Shrikes and one young of the year, which were generously placed in my hands for description. These birds are marked as parents, respectively, of sets of 5, 5, 4, and 2 eggs. In forwarding these Shrikes, Mr. Beck writes: "They were the wildest land birds I ever saw by far."

YOUNG PLUMAGES OF MEXICAN BIRDS.

BY RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

Pipilo carmani Lawrence. SOCORRO TOWHEE.

This Towhee was the most abundant land bird on Socorro Island and in contrast to its mainland relatives it was not shy. Its general habits and notes are quite similiar to those of the Spurred Towhee.

But one young bird was taken and it is nearly adult.

No. 1289, ♀ juv., coll. R. C. McG., Socorro Island, Mexico, May 13, 1897. Plumage much as in the adult. Black throat and chin patch wanting; tawny patches on sides pale, indistinct, and small; feathers of other lower parts dirty white with long, dark, central spots; tertials and feathers of mantle edged with tawny. White spot of tail on outer feather only 9.5 mm. long.

Ammodramus sanctorum Coues. SAN BENITO SPARROW.

The nest and eggs of the San Benito Sparrow have been described in the 'Osprey,' II, 42. It remains only to describe the young plumage. The youngest birds have no markings on the lower parts (*v.* Brewster, B. N. O. C., IV, 36) but the breast streaks soon appear. The youngest bird which I have is here described.

No. 1058, ♀ juv., coll. R. C. McG., San Benito Island, Lower California, March 30, 1897. Upper parts like adult in general looks, but somewhat lighter and less olivaceous; feathers of head and neck brocoli brown

with small dark centres; feathers of scapulars and interscapulars centered by clove brown with creamy margins. Lower parts pure white, except traces of faint spots across breast and on flanks; wings and tail resembling those of adult plumage; tertials widely bordered with cinnamon.

Carpodacus mcgregori *Anthony.* MCGREGOR'S FINCH.

We found examples of *C. mcgregori* distributed over the two large Benitos, but on account of their extreme shyness they were difficult to obtain. We were at the islands too late to collect eggs, but I secured three young birds about ready to leave the nest. The parents had constructed their nest about two feet above the ground in a century plant (*Agave*). It was made after the fashion of *C. frontalis*, of a miscellaneous lot of bark, twigs, and fibre. The three young are of different sizes, of which the smallest is here described.

No. 1041, ♂ nestling, coll. R. C. McG., San Benito Island, Lower California, March 29, 1897. The young plumage differs in coloration but little from that of the adult female. Upper parts heavily marked with clove brown, edges and tips of feathers cinnamon; lower parts streaked with clove and cinnamon; tertials and rectrices broadly edged and tipped with wood brown.

DESCRIPTION OF A NEW *AMMODRAMUS* FROM
LOWER CALIFORNIA.

BY RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

Ammodramus halophilus,¹ sp. nov.

LAGOON SPARROW.

Sp. char. — Most closely related to *A. rostratus guttatus*, but "uniformly larger and much darker; upper parts decidedly olivaceous instead of olive grayish."²

¹ ἅλς, salt of the sea; φιλέω, to love.

² From letter of Mr. R. Ridgway, May 12, 1898.